

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 982
By Yokley

A RESOLUTION to designate Sunday, May 2nd, 2004 as "Ramp Festival Day" in Tennessee.

WHEREAS, the mountain ramp, an edible root, is a traditional symbol of the unflagging strength and fortitude characteristic of the residents of the Tennessee mountains; and

WHEREAS, this legendary root, distinguished by its odoriferous qualities, is purported to supply unyielding powers that have furthered the chivalrous and intrepid deeds of those who have chosen the mountains for their home; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of East Tennessee, particularly the residents of Cocke County, have established an annual festival at Cosby as a memorial to the late Bert Vincent, who was the moving force in originating "Ramp Festival Day"; and

WHEREAS, the annual event, held in the shadow of the Great Smoky Mountains, has been attended by a United States President, United States Senators and Representatives, numerous Governors of Tennessee and various states, State Legislators, and a plethora of notable figures; and

WHEREAS, this event will once again be celebrated on Kineauvista Hill at Cosby, Cocke County, on May 2, 2004; and

WHEREAS, all true mountain enthusiasts, genuine ramp eaters, and bluegrass music lovers are invited to celebrate with the many East Tennesseans and others who gather at Cosby at this, the only Ramp Festival in the world; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby designate Sunday, May 2, 2004, "Ramp Festival Day" in the State of Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an invitation to this remarkable festival is hereby extended to the Governor, the members of his Cabinet, and any other honorable citizen who wishes to partake of this veritable cornucopia of East Tennessee heritage.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.